

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Governor Perdue Appoints New Advisers

Willis, Gibson and Davis Strengthen Governor's Team

RALEIGH Gov. Bev Perdue today announced the following personnel changes in her leadership team.

Andy Willis, currently the Governor's senior adviser for governmental affairs, will assume the role of director of the Office of State Budget and Management. Current Budget Director Charlie Perusse announced in December that he is leaving for a position with the UNC system. Willis has served as the Governor's senior adviser for legislative affairs since she took office. Willis previously served as a vice president with the UNC system and on the staff of the General Assembly's Fiscal Research Division, where he assisted the General Assembly in writing the budget.

Pryor Gibson, currently a member of the House of Representatives representing Anson and Union counties, will replace Willis as senior adviser for governmental affairs. Gibson is in his eighth term and has held a variety of leadership posts, including co-chair of the House Finance Committee. He has a longstanding reputation for building relationships with all members of the General Assembly.

Mark Davis, now a special deputy attorney general in the Department of Justice, has been named as general counsel to the Governor. He replaces Eddie Speas, who announced in December that he is returning to private practice. Davis has served as an attorney in the Special Litigation section of the Department of Justice for more than four years. Prior to that he spent 13 years as a litigator in private practice and served as a law clerk to the late U.S. District Judge Franklin Dupree.